

April 2025



MAPLES MEMORIAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Maples Family,

One of the important values for us at Maples Memorial UMC is hospitality—not just being friendly, but embodying the welcome of Christ in every space, every interaction, every ministry. As we continue to live into our 2025 vision of being rooted in God’s Word and our mission of making disciples, this value reminds us that hospitality is often where transformation begins.

Paul writes in Romans 15:7 (NRSV), *“Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.”* That’s not a suggestion—it’s a command, and a sacred calling. When someone walks through the doors of our church, they may be searching for far more than worship. Many are longing to be seen, known, and loved. Jesus’s hospitality meets them in that longing and says, “You belong.”

This is the kind of welcome Jesus practiced throughout his ministry. Whether it was Zacchaeus in a tree (Luke 19:1–10), the woman at the well (John 4:1–30), or the children the disciples tried to turn away (Mark 10:13–16), Jesus made room for people others often overlooked. If we’re going to follow Him, we must do the same.

This spring, we’ll see guests coming for Easter services, children’s activities, and community events. Every encounter is a holy moment. I want us to be ready—not just as greeters or ushers, but as the Body of Christ.

Let’s be the kind of church that welcomes others as Christ welcomed us—with open arms and open hearts. That’s where true discipleship begins.

Happy Easter!

Bro. Kerry Powell



Dates to Remember

April 1	.....	Rook Club
April 6	.....	Confirmation Class
April 8	.....	Maples Ladies Group
April 10	.....	Olive Branch Food Pantry
	.....	Mississippi River Chorale
April 12	.....	Church Workday
April 13	.....	Palm Sunday
	.....	Egg hunt, Bon Fire & Prayer Walk
April 17	.....	Maundy Thursday Service
April 18	.....	Tenebrae Service
April 19	.....	Maples Men's Ministry
April 20	.....	Easter Sunday
April 24	.....	Dip & Devotion Ladies Group
April 26	.....	Lay Servant School
April 27	.....	Confirmation Class

Monthly Budget Offering Reports (designated giving excluded)

April 2024	..... \$38,961.10	October	..... \$45,445.00
May	..... \$39,142.90	November	..... \$51,648.25
June	..... \$45,556.35	December	..... \$98,940.66
July	..... \$53,403.86	January 2025	..... \$46,942.25
August	..... \$45,383.40	February	..... \$47,207.41
September	..... \$39,787.50	March	..... \$51,311.04

Weekly Attendance/Budget Giving Reports

	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Worship Services</u>	<u>Giving</u>
March 2	.....71	.....146	.....\$14,707.54
March 9	.....46	.....112	.....\$4,522.00
March 16	.....77	.....174	.....\$8,793.00
March 23	.....52	.....134	.....\$3,715.50
March 30	.....71	.....144	.....\$6,856.00

Sunday Morning Volunteers in April

Traditions Worship Ushers/Greeters:

April 6.....**Ushers:** Eason Treadway, Ron Tucker, Ryan Barnes and Ashley Bowlan. **Greeter:** Jill Sitton. **Acolyte:** Elle Webster.

April 13.....**Ushers:** Larry Bright, Pat Dorr, Eason Treadway and Ron Tucker. **Greeter:** Rose Tobey. **Acolyte:** Ben Lane.

April 20.....**Ushers:** Ryan Barnes, Ashley Bowlan, Larry Bright and Pat Dorr. **Greeter:** Earnestine Turner. **Acolyte:** Cori Rice.

April 27.....**Ushers:** Eason Treadway, Ron Tucker, Ryan Barnes and Ashley Bowlan. **Greeter:** Jeanette Wallace. **Acolyte:** Walker Webster.

Prayer Concerns

Home Bound: Phyllis Vanderburg; Carol McOlgan; Margaret Peden.

Military: Jadzia Pacenza; Mary Murphy; Adam Kirchhoff; Connor Tapley; Aaron James; Jimarco White; Ben Vanderburg; Emma Magnuson; Josh Tow; Matthew Roach; Alexandra Raburn.

Other Requests: Vance Family; Jadzia Pacenza; Family of Susan Miller; Family of Elwood Jefferson; Jace Journee; Jim Meurer; Gerald Neal; Jim Sleeper; Jon Lott; Anita Scholl; Rev. Mike Dorr; Family of Elizabeth Randolph (Kristi Pacenza's great aunt); Becky Bright; Perry Lee Bowlan; Ginger Hunter; Angel Pilcher; Jenna Tanner; Stacy Daniels; Lexi Burcham; Jeff Glezer; Rebecca Thomas' father; Keith Hayward; Julie Dorr; Melissa Black's son, Owen; Jim Copeland; Jim Rose; Tobey & Rose Tobey. *Please contact the church office or let a staff member know if you or a family member have any upcoming surgeries scheduled or you know of someone in the hospital.*

April Birthdays

April 5: Anne Cetto, Kelly Walhood, Caitlin Luke

April 6: James Sanders

April 10: Isaac Bass

April 12: Jim Copeland

April 14: Misty Wilson

April 15: Audrey Barnes

April 16: Vivian Vaughn

April 17: Darryl Skipper, Amy Jones, Nicol Hager

April 18: David Olds

April 20: Ethan Lott

April 21: Kevin Bland

April 24: Teree Sowell, Jim Suttlemyre, Wendy Lane

April 25: Caiden Rousseau

April 27: Margaret Peden, Dave Kirchhoff

April 28: Michael Pacenza, Meredith Falconello

Contact the church office if your name is not on the birthday list.

Ministry Opportunities

Little Free Pantry

Maples' provides this resource to anyone anytime - day or night. You can sign up at mapleschurch.org to fill the pantry on a particular day or if you are unable to commit to signing up to fill the pantry, please know you are always welcome to swing by and drop off a few items without signing up.

M25 Ministries

M25 Ministries, formally known as Matthew 25 Ministries, is currently collecting mosquito spray, money designated for bus passes, and travel size toiletries. Contact Rev. Ashley Ford at 901-606-1553 or at sixtfred@gmail.com if you are interested in going downtown and helping. Checks can be made payable to M25 Ministries and mailed to Pleasant Hill UMC, 3787 Pleasant Hill Rd., Olive Branch, MS 38654.

Olive Branch Food Pantry

Maples serves at the Olive Branch Food Panty the second Thursday of each month from 5:45-8:00 p.m. The pantry is located at 10947 Hwy 178.

HOLY WEEK AT MAPLES



**FAMILY
EGG HUNT
BONFIRE &
PRAYER
WALK**

April 13
@5:00pm

**MAUNDY
THURSDAY
SERVICE**

April 17
@7:00pm

**GOOD
FRIDAY
TENEBRAE
SERVICE**

April 18
@7:30pm

**EASTER
SUNDAY
SERVICES**

April 20
@9am & 11am

HORN LAKE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PRESENTS
THE 2025

LENTEN LUNCHES

THURSDAYS AT NOON

Guest Speakers

MARCH 6TH REV. KERRY POWELL, MAPLES MEMORIAL UMC
MARCH 13TH FEED MY LAMBS MINISTRY, MINOR MEMORIAL
MARCH 20TH REV. RANDI ELKINS, THE WELL @ LEWISBURG
MARCH 27TH REV. GREG HAZELRIG, MATTHEW 25 MINISTRIES
APRIL 3RD REV. CHUCK BURSI, WESLEY MEADOWS
APRIL 10TH LENT ROSS, NORTHERN DISTRICT LAY LEADER

Bring a Brown
Bag Lunch
Chips, Tea,
and Dessert
Provided!

6890 CENTER STREET EAST
HORN LAKE, MISSISSIPPI

MAPLES MEMORIAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Men's Ministry

ANNUAL GOLF

Tournament

Monday, May 12

LUNCH AND REGISTRATION @ 11:30 AM
SHOTGUN START @ 1:00PM

OLIVE BRANCH
COUNTRY CLUB

Join us on the course for a great cause!
Enjoy a day of golf and fellowship while supporting outreach, community
service, and ministry efforts that make a real impact.

Lunch provided by:
Award Winning Chef Ben Vaughn of the Sow Project

Call or Text:

Kevin Bland Dave Kirchhoff
662-910-0557 662-403-7251

Memorials Received

In honor of Caroline Strunk
by Christopher & Beverly Durrer

In memory of Jeffrey Strunk
by Christopher & Beverly Durrer

*In memory of Annie & B. B. Blocker and
Irene & E. G. Travis*
by Bill & Lyndy Travis

In memory of Susan Miller
by George & Pat Joseph
by Jill Sitton

DIP
&
DEVOTION
Ladies' Group

IN WESLEY HALL
3RD THURSDAY EACH MONTH @6PM

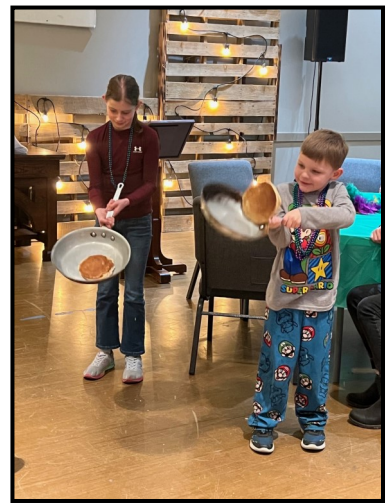
Dip and Devotion Ladies Group

Dip and Devotion is a new Ladies group that will meet the third Thursday of each month beginning February 20, from 6-8 p.m. in Wesley Hall with a social and devotion. Their mission is Spaghetti Sermon where they will package sauce, bread, and noodles to pass out to those in our community with food insecurity. Bring a dip to share and join us! See Leigh Ellen Doddridge or Jennifer Bland for more information.



Maples Ladies Group

Maples Ladies Group celebrated St. Patrick's day at their March meeting. These ladies are always working on some project and have a great time doing it! All ladies are invited to attend! They meet the second Tuesday of the month at 11AM in room 118.



◀ Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Everyone enjoyed pancakes, trivia, good fellowship, a parade, pancake flipping contests and a time of reflection as we prepared our hearts for the Lenten season. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard, especially the cooks!!



▲ Olive Branch Mardi Gras Parade

Despite the strong winds Maples set up a mask making table for kids to make Mardi Gras masks at the parade.

◀ Joy Seekers Sunday School Class

Joy Seekers Sunday School class fed the youth "Irish Hash Brown Casserole", green beans and then completed the meal with green pudding to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.



Senior Pastor, Rev. Kerry Powell • Worship Arts Pastor, Dr. Joey Lott

Assistant Pastor of Youth and Worship, Ben Larsen • Children's Ministry Resident, Christi Rice

Administrative Secretary, Gail Ross • Organist, Allen Sanders

Maples Memorial United Methodist Church

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Website: www.mapleschurch.org

Facebook: facebook.com/mapleschurch



Reaching Up...Reaching Within...Reaching Out.